

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A process for producing hollow plastic articles, ~~encompassing~~comprising the following steps:
 - a) producing a tubular plastic parison by means of extrusion or coextrusion;
 - b) cutting open the tubular plastic parison to produce two planar-surface parts;
 - c) molding the planar-surface parts in two mold halves to give half shells, where a removable intermediate frame separates the mold halves from one another at least along ~~the peripheral edges, so that~~wherein the ~~semifinished products/half~~ planar-surface parts and half shells are not in contact with one another;
 - d) opening the mold halves and removing the intermediate frame;
 - e) closing the mold halves, ~~with the result that~~wherein the half shells come into contact with one another along a peripheral rim; and
 - f) bonding the half shells ~~to give a hollow article~~.
2. (currently amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein, after removal of the intermediate frame, incorporated parts ~~can be~~are attached to the inside of at least one of the molded half shells.
3. (currently amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the incorporated parts are chosen from ventilation lines for pressure equilibration within ~~the~~a tank, fuel lines for equilibration of liquids within the tank, valves, anti-surge cups, ~~or~~ pump-related sensor modules and/or tank sensor modules, ~~for example~~.
4. (currently amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the planar-surface parts are molded in the mold halves to give half shells by means of at least one of thermoforming ~~and/or~~and blow molding.
5. (currently amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the bonding of the half shells ~~takes place by~~comprises at least one of adhesive bonding ~~and/or~~and welding.

6. (currently amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in claim ~~5~~4, wherein ~~the~~ heat from thermoforming is used to weld the half shells.
7. (currently amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 1, further comprising molding of the hollow article by at least one of thermoforming and blow molding ~~wherein, after bonding of the half shells, further molding of the hollow article takes place via thermoforming and/or blow molding.~~
8. (currently amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the intermediate frame used comprises a plate insert which substantially provides complete filling of ~~the~~an area between the two mold halves.
9. (currently amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the intermediate frame ~~has~~comprises equipment for cooling or heating.
10. (currently amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the intermediate frame ~~has~~comprises equipment for controlled heating of the edges of the molded half shells.
11. (currently amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the intermediate frame ~~has~~comprises equipment for heating ~~the~~a pinch-off edge of at least one mold half, ~~preferably of both.~~
12. (currently amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 8, wherein the intermediate frame or the plate insert is of single-part or multipart design.
13. (currently amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 1, which proceeds without additional heating steps or cooling steps.

14. (currently amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein, during cutting open of the tubular plastic parison, use is made of driven units of a roller type, ~~preferably driven floating rollers~~, for ~~consistent~~ guiding over the cutting device.
15. (currently amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the cutting of the tubular plastic parison takes place ~~prior to separation from the die, i.e. before the extrusion process is complete, or immediately afterward.~~
16. (currently amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the plastic parison ~~has~~comprises at least one layer made from polymeric material, ~~preferably selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene, polyvinyl chloride, polyamide, polyketone, polyester, and mixtures of these.~~
17. (currently amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the plastic parison ~~has~~comprises a structure ~~composed of at least two or more layers, preferably encompassing base layer, regrind layer, adhesion promoter layer, and/or barrier layer.~~
18. (currently amended) ~~A~~The process as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the plastic parison ~~has~~comprises a structure ~~composed of at least two or more layers encompassing~~wherein the at least two layers are arranged, from the outside to the inside:
- [[•]](1) a layer made from HDPE with thickness from 5 to 30%,
 - [[•]](2) a regrind layer with thickness from 10 to 82%,
 - [[•]](3) an adhesion-promoter layer with thickness from 1 to 5%,
 - [[•]](4) a barrier layer with thickness from 1 to 10%,
 - [[•]](5) an adhesion-promoter layer with thickness from 1 to 5%,
 - [[•]](6) a layer made from HDPE with thickness from 10 to 40%,
- based in each case on ~~the~~a total thickness of the ~~container~~plastic article wall.

19. (currently amended) A process for producing hollow plastic articles, ~~encompassing~~comprising the following steps:
- a) producing, by means of extrusion or coextrusion, a tubular plastic parison ~~encompassing~~comprising at least one layer made from polymeric materials ~~preferably selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene, polyvinyl chloride, polyamide, polyketone, polyester, and mixtures of these;~~
 - b) cutting open the tubular plastic parison to give two planar-surface parts by means of a suitable cutting device, and using driven floating rollers for ~~consistent~~ guiding of the parison over the cutting device;
 - c) molding the planar-surface parts in two mold halves to give half shells, where a removable intermediate frame separates the mold halves from one another, at least along the peripheral edges, ~~so that the semifinished products/half shells wherein the~~ planar-surface parts and half shells are not in contact with one another;
 - d) opening the mold halves and removing the intermediate frame;
 - e) closing the mold halves, with the result that the half shells come into contact with one another along a peripheral rim; and
 - f) welding the half shells ~~to give a hollow article.~~
20. (currently amended) A hollow plastic article ~~which can be produced by the~~ a process as ~~claimed in any of claims 1 to 19~~comprising:
- a) producing a tubular plastic parison by means of extrusion or coextrusion;
 - b) cutting open the tubular plastic parison to produce two planar-surface parts;
 - c) molding the planar-surface parts in two mold halves to give half shells, where a removable intermediate frame separates the mold halves from one another at least along peripheral edges, wherein the planar-surface parts and half shells are not in contact with one another;
 - d) opening the mold halves and removing the intermediate frame;
 - e) closing the mold halves, wherein that the half shells come into contact with one another along a peripheral rim; and
 - f) bonding the half shells.

21. (currently amended) The article of claim 20 selected from the group consisting of use of a hollow plastic article obtainable by the process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 18 as a plastic fuel tank in motor vehicles, as a gasoline canister, a plastic tank for storage or transport of heating oil, diesel, ~~or the like, or~~ a transport container on a utility vehicle, ~~for example for crop sprays, or~~ a solvent container, and a plastic bottle, ~~or the like.~~
22. (new) The process as claimed in claim 11 wherein the intermediate frame has equipment for heating a pinch-off edge of both mold halves.
23. (new) The process as claimed in claim 14 wherein the driven units are driven floating rollers.
24. (new) The process as claimed in claim 16 wherein the polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene, polyvinyl chloride, polyamide, polyketone, polyester, and mixtures thereof.
25. (new) The process as claimed in claim 17 wherein the at least two layers comprise a base layer and at least one of a regrind layer, an adhesion-promoter layer and a barrier layer.
26. (new) The process as claimed in claim 19 wherein the polymeric materials are selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene, polyvinyl chloride, polyamide, polyketone, polyester, and mixtures thereof.